

1 TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES:

2       The Committee on Appropriations to which was referred Senate Bill No. 60  
3       entitled “An act relating to establishing the Farm Security Special Fund to  
4       provide grants for farm losses due to weather conditions” respectfully reports  
5       that it has considered the same and recommends that the report of the  
6       Committee on Agriculture, Food Resiliency, and Forestry be amended as  
7       follows:

8       First: In Sec. 1, findings, in subdivision (1), after “and other” and before  
9       “disasters” by striking out “climate-fueled” and inserting in lieu thereof  
10      “weather-based”

11      and in subdivision (4)(A), after “food security,” and before “resilience, rural  
12      economic” by striking out “climate”  
13      and in subdivision (4)(C), after “operations impacted by” and before the  
14      period by striking out “climate emergencies and extreme weather” and  
15      inserting in lieu thereof “weather-based emergencies”

16       Second: In Sec. 2, 6 V.S.A. chapter 207, in the new subchapter heading, by  
17      striking out “Subchapter 4” and inserting in lieu thereof “Subchapter 5”

18       Third: In Sec. 2, 6 V.S.A. chapter 207, in section 4631, in the section  
19      heading, by striking out “4631” and inserting in lieu thereof “4641”

20       Fourth: In Sec. 2, 6 V.S.A. chapter 207, in section 4631, in subdivision (3),  
21      by striking out “4634” and inserting in lieu thereof “4644”

1        **Fifth:** In Sec. 2, 6 V.S.A. chapter 207, in the section  
2        heading, by striking out “4632” and inserting in lieu thereof “4642”  
3        **Sixth:** In Sec. 2, 6 V.S.A. chapter 207, in section 4633, in the section  
4        heading, by striking out “4633” and inserting in lieu thereof “4643”  
5        and by striking out subsection (b) in its entirety and inserting in lieu thereof  
6        the following:  
7                (b) The Secretary shall develop a streamlined application for awards under  
8        this section that shall include:  
9                        (1) a brief description of the damage that occurred;  
10                        (2) attestation of an eligible weather condition or event;  
11                        (3) a list of any State grants or loans received for the purposes of the  
12        farm or forestry operation business in the past five years, to include amount,  
13        source, and purposes of the funding received;  
14                        (4) an estimate of losses; and  
15                        (5) a year-end report of farm or forestry operation income and expenses.  
16        and by striking out subsection (f) in its entirety and inserting in lieu thereof  
17        the following:  
18                (f) The Secretary of Agriculture, Food and Markets may pay reasonable  
19        administrative expenses from the Fund for purposes of administering the  
20        requirements of this subchapter.

1        Seventh: In Sec. 2, 6 V.S.A. chapter 207, in section 4634, in the section  
2        heading, by striking out “4634” and inserting in lieu thereof “4644”  
3        Eighth: In Sec. 2, 6 V.S.A. chapter 207, in section 4634, in subdivision  
4        (c)(1), in the first sentence, by striking out “subdivision (b)(3)” and inserting in  
5        lieu thereof “subdivision (b)(4)”  
6        and in subdivision (c)(1), in the third sentence, by striking out “subdivision  
7        (b)(4)” and inserting in lieu thereof “subdivision (b)(5)”  
8        and in subdivision (c)(1), in the fourth sentence, by striking out  
9        “subdivision (b)(5)” and inserting in lieu thereof “subdivision (b)(6)”

10       Ninth: By adding a Sec. 2a to read as follows:

11       Sec. 2a. CONTIGENCY OF FUNDING

12       The duty to implement Sec. 2 of this act (Farm and Forestry Operations  
13       Security Special Fund) is contingent upon an appropriation of funds in fiscal  
14       year 2027 or subsequent fiscal years from the General Fund to the Agency of  
15       Agriculture, Food and Markets for the specific purposes described in Sec. 2 of  
16       this act.

17       Tenth: In Sec. 3, effective date, by striking out “2025” and inserting in lieu  
18       thereof “2026”

19       and that after passage the title of the bill be amended to read: “An act  
20       relating to establishing the Farm and Forestry Operations Security Special

1 Fund to provide payments for farm and forestry operation losses due to  
2 weather conditions”

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7 (Committee vote: \_\_\_\_\_)

8 \_\_\_\_\_

9 Representative \_\_\_\_\_

10 FOR THE COMMITTEE